

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 113939

53

ORIGIN SS-15

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 113939

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EGY

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF EGYPTIAN DEBT SERVICE TO
USSR/EASTERN EUROPE

, REQUEST EMBASSY/AID CONTACT UNDER SECRETARY
EL SARRAF OF MINISTRY FINANCE AND CLARIFY COMPOSITION
OF LE 172 MILLION ITEM IN 1975 GOE FOREIGN EXCHANGE
BUDGET FOR REPAYMENT OF BILATERAL DEBT OBLIGATIONS. IN
TEAM'S DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM LAST WEEK, HE IMPLIED THIS
WAS SERVICE FALLING DUE THIS YEAR ON CIVIL DEBT TO USSR
AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, PRESUMABLY COVERING OLD
BILATERAL TRADE BALANCES AND SUPPLIER CREDITS. ON
FURTHER REFLECTION HERE, SUCH OBLIGATION IN SINGLE YEAR
APPEARS SO LARGE THAT IT MAY INCLUDE FINANCE MINISTRY'S
ASSUMPTION OF POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF SERVICE ON SOVIET
MILITARY AID DEBT, AS USSR HAD BEEN DEMANDING, WHICH WE
UNDERSTAND TO BE 200 MILLION RUBLES ANNUALLY UNLESS
RESCHEDULED FURTHER.

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PAGE 02 STATE 113939

2. CLARIFICATION NEEDED IN ORDER TO DEFINE TERMS OF

NEEDED GOE ASSURANCE, DISCUSSED BY UNDER SECRETARY
ROBINSON WITH FAHMY, AGAINST USE OF NEW US AID TO SERVICE
FOREIGN MILITARY AID DEBT OR TO FUND NET FLOWS OF
PAYMENTS TO MAJOR FOREIGN CIVIL CREDITORS IN 1975. KISSINGER

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